

MOLTKE.

Speech of the German Count General on the Military Situation.

George Washington's Words Quoted as a Source of Enlightenment.

BERLIN, Feb. 15, 1874.

Count von Moltke spoke at great length yesterday in the Reichstag upon the Army bill for the German Empire. The address was a brilliant, logical effort, and appears to have been directed more to foreign Powers than to the Germans themselves. Count von Moltke asserted the necessity of Germany maintaining an available army of 400,000 men, in order to render the Empire secure from attack. Doubtless the speech will be translated into all foreign languages, and I therefore hasten to send you the substance of the great orator's remarks.

COUNT VON MOLTKE'S SPEECH.

I would first of all direct your attention to the question whether Germany will in future have to bear the support of a peace army of 400,000 men. Gentlemen, we shall have to consider the relations of the land internally and externally. Every government must use its income for the actual necessities of the State's existence before it can think of economy, reduction of taxes, or release of taxation. The first necessity of a State is to see internally the law protects the right and freedom of the individual; but between State and State there is no arbiter but power. If a tribunal of international arbitration existed it would always lack the executive power, and its decisions would, after all, be decided upon the battle field. Small States can entrust themselves to neutrality and international guarantees; but a great State exists only in itself and out of its own power, and fulfils the object of its existence when it is determined and prepared to assert its existence, its freedom and its right; and to leave a land defenceless were the greatest crime a government could commit.

WAR TAXATION.

The wish to spare the taxpayer the immense sums which are actually spent for military purposes and to turn the same to other purposes is certainly a very laudable one. Who does not like to imagine how much good, useful and beautiful, could then be created? But we must not forget at the same time that the economy practised in military matters during a long series of years can be lost in but a single year of war. ("Very true.") I would remind you of what a single unfortunate campaign—the period from 1805 to 1812—cost our land. These were years of peace in which the actual strength of the army was small, the time of service as short as was possible to make it, and yet Napoleon could boast of having drawn over a million from Prussia, then small and poor. We economized in our army because we had to, and then paid tenfold to a foreign one. We should not, however, fail to observe that of late years the government has likewise provided large sums for the purpose of peace; but it is not sufficient. From all sides more and more are demanded; and for this reason I think we have not yet reached the time for any relaxation of taxes. I think that every individual, even the most insignificant, should contribute something to the support of the State, so that he may not forget that there exists such a thing as a State, which provides for him, and which he again is called upon to protect; for the greatest benefits which people get for nothing are seldom appreciated. How, then, can the State draw its income when in so many departments so much is to be accomplished? I mention merely

because the school is the point where the lever must be inserted to protect our youth against dangers which threaten us, not only from abroad, but from among ourselves—from socialism and communism, which are spreading like a pestilence, and which, if not checked, will be removed by a better and more widely disseminated education. (Applause.) The school, gentlemen, does not belong to the State; it accompanies them only for their comparative distance on the brief way of life. Fortunately, with us where education proper ceases the training commences, and inferior to the school, as they are in its totality such a schooling as ours through the general military system. (Applause.) It has been said that the schoolmasters won our battles for us. Mere knowledge, however, does not elevate man to the point where he can stand up for his idea, for the fulfilment of duty, for the honor of his country; and this belongs to the whole training of the man. Not the schoolmaster, but the educator (Erzieher), the State, and inferior to the school, as they are during a series of years nearly sixty years trained the nation to corporeal activity and intellectual freshness, to the love of their country, to loyalty and obedience, to the love of Fatherland and manhood. You cannot spare the army—the army is the result of the education and training of the nation.

ARMED EUROPE.

THE BROOKLYN SOUP KITCHENS.

POVERTY IN THE WEST.

Destitution Among the Settlers in Iowa.

CHICAGO, Ill., March 12, 1874.

Despatches from northwestern Iowa report continued suffering among the settlers on homesteads in Osceola, Lyon, and other counties in the extreme northwestern portion of the State, caused by the failure of the crops. Dr. McCoy, of Iowa, is now here soliciting aid for the sufferers, and has been appointed a committee to receive donations from members of the Board and others.

FIRES IN BOSTON.

A Night of Alarm—Ten Conflagrations.

In as Many Hours—The Losses.

BOSTON, March 12, 1874.

Ten alarms of fire occurred during last night, keeping the firemen almost constantly on the move, and owing to the fierce northwesterly wind and extreme cold caused unusual excitement and anxiety on the part of the citizens. The firemen were called out at intervals of ten minutes, and the firemen were called out at intervals of ten minutes.

FIRES IN NEW ORLEANS.

NEW ORLEANS, March 12, 1874.

A fire, corner of Morris and St. Louis streets, today caused a loss of about \$15,000.

reason, a large number of money and life. I remind you of the last American war of secession, which had to be carried on both sides in great part by militia. Hancock has given us, in his excellent history, the history of the militia, and the militia of the United States has been the mainstay of the nation. Nothing could be more unpopular than the demand made that Congress should establish a standing army. This might be a strange thing in Washington, but it is not so in the country. "Experience, which is the best guide for our actions, repudiates so perfectly clear a necessity. The militia of the United States has been the mainstay of the nation. Nothing could be more unpopular than the demand made that Congress should establish a standing army. This might be a strange thing in Washington, but it is not so in the country."

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THE STATE CAPITAL.

Various Railroad Bills—The Supply Bill Introduced—A Proposition to Amend the Sunday Law—State Taxes in the City of New York—Action of the Canal Board—Vanderbilt's Rapid Transit Scheme.

ALBANY, March 12, 1874.

That Gas Meter Bill of New York, which was paid by the gas companies, was about as useful in the way of protecting the interests of the consumers as the statute of Washington in Union square. A bill was introduced to-day by Mr. Lincoln, of Ontario, providing for a Gas Commissioner, who shall be appointed by the Mayor, receive \$5,000 a year and have no connection with any gas companies. If an honest man can be found to do the duties of the position and save consumers from being swindled by the gas companies, his salary will not be too high, and he can make himself a public benefactor.

AN OLD BILL BACK AGAIN.

Last year a bill was introduced for a railroad on Forty-fourth street, from river to river. It passed the Senate, but was killed in the Assembly. To-day a similar bill was introduced by Mr. Healey for a street car railroad, commencing at Forty-fourth street, on the East River, and extending across town to the Hudson; also proceeding from the intersection of Madison avenue and Forty-fourth street along Madison avenue to Forty-second, along Forty-second to Ninth avenue and along Ninth avenue to Thirty-fourth. The three principal incorporators are William King, Edward A. Boyd and